



## **The Catoclin Mountain Artist-in-Residence Program**

The very first suggestion of a "nation's park" came from artist George Catlin in 1832. Artists have always played a vital role in preserving our nation's treasures. Catoclin Mountain Park, Cunningham Falls State Park and the Catoclin Forest Alliance, Inc. (CFA) support this tradition today through the Artist-In-Residence program.

Artists help our parks with their root mission: conservation and enjoyment. Historic records and technical drawings may help preserve the nuts and bolts of our state and national parks, while the hand of an artist will preserve the park's soul. The artist's work draws the public closer to the park's resources, so they can enjoy it on a deeper level and help to preserve it.

The Catoclin Mountain Artist-In-Residence program, under the auspices of the Catoclin Forest Alliance, Inc., offers visual, literary, and performing artists an opportunity to work in a natural and historic setting to advance art, nature, and history education and appreciation.

The Catoclin forest area boasts many compelling subjects. Here the artist may find many historic sites, farms, quaint villages, rivers and streams, waterfalls, lakes, and other scenic views. Beneath the attractive scenery lies a wealth of modern social subjects: development and conservation, wildlife restoration, suburban sprawl, poverty and affluence, disappearing traditions, ethnic diversity, and plenty more.

The Artist-In-Residence will spend two weeks immersed in the natural and cultural resources of the Catoclin Mountains. During this residency, the artist will produce a novel work and share the artistic process with the public.

Artists are asked to engage in a public presentation during their residency. The form of this presentation can be selected by the artist and the park ranger at the beginning of the residency.

As a condition of residency under most circumstances, the artist is asked to donate a work created on the mountain to the Catoclin Forest Alliance, Inc. (CFA) as a tax-deductible gift. The CFA will retain the rights to the work for display and for promotion of conservation, history, and the arts.

Amateur and professional artists of two- and three-dimensional arts, photographers, videographers, writers, and poets are encouraged to apply. In the future, we expect to open the program to musicians and other performing artists.

There are four residencies each year: two in May, one in August, and one in September. The Catoclin Forest Alliance, Inc. will accept applications no later than February 15.

The application can be found on Catoclin Mountain Park's webpage at <http://www.nps.gov/cato/supportyourpark/artist-in-residence.htm>

To learn more about the Catoclin Forest Alliance, Inc. go to [www.catoclinforall.org](http://www.catoclinforall.org).